

BRITISH PREMIER NAMES TERMS

Complete Restitution, Full Reparation and Effectual Guarantees For Future

INVITATION DECLINED BY RUSSIA ALSO

COUNCIL OF THE EMPIRE UNANIMOUSLY IN FAVOR OF REFUSING TO ENTER INTO ANY PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

FORMER PREMIER TALKS ON PEACE

Mr. Asquith Declares That He Sees Nothing in the Note From Germany Which Gives Him the Least Reason to Believe That They Are Prepared to Give the Entente Allies Reparation and Security, and if They Are, Let Them Say So.

LONDON, Dec. 19.—(8:50 p. m.)—The council of the empire today adopted an order of the day, identical with that passed by the duma, declaring the council unanimously in favor of refusing to enter, under present conditions, into any peace negotiations with Germany, says a dispatch to Reuter's Telegram company from Petrograd.

ASQUITH'S VIEWS.

LONDON, Dec. 19.—(8:50 p. m.)—The former premier, Mr. Asquith, after declaring that his first duty was to extend congratulations, which he did with all his heart, to Mr. Lloyd George upon his accession to the highest and most important office in the service of the crown, spoke with a brief but pointed reference to the question of peace.

"The country," he said, "has just received some so-called peace proposals from Germany. True, these proposals are wrapped up with the familiar dialect of Prussian arrogance. But how comes it after two years of war that a power which professes itself self-conscious of military superiority and ultimate victory begins to whine and to beg about so that all the world can hear—the word 'Peace'?"

"Is this from a sudden access to civility? When did the German chancellor become so sensitive to the dictates of humanity?"

"We must look elsewhere for the origin of these proposals. They are born of military and economic necessity. We all yearn for peace but it must be an honorable, not a shamed peace. There must be no patched-up, precarious compromise. It must be a peace that achieves the purpose for which we entered the war. Such a peace we would gladly accept. Anything short of it we are bound to repudiate by every obligation of honor and, above all, by the debt we owe those who have given their lives to the cause."

"I see nothing in the note from Germany which gives me the least reason to believe that they are prepared to give us reparation and security. If they are in such a mood, if they are prepared to give us reparation for the past and security for the future, let them say so."

In presenting the policy of the government in the house of lords, Earl Curzon, who is a member of the new war council, said:

"The policy of the new government is that the war must be conducted with the utmost prosecution; that there must be an ample return for all sacrifices; that full reparation must be made by the enemy for his countless crimes; that security given that these crimes will not be repeated and that the sacrifices made shall not have been in vain."

"The government's aim is that the peace of Europe shall be re-established on the basis of the free and independent existence of nations, great and small, and that as regards this country it shall be free from the menace which the triumph of Germany and the German spirit would entail."

MUST CRUSH MILITARISM OF GERMANY

PREMIER LLOYD GEORGE FORCIBLY PRESENTS TO WORLD THE CAUSE FOR WHICH THE ALLIES ARE FIGHTING.

MUST ACCEDE TO ALLIES' TERMS

PREMIER DECLARES, "TO ENTER A CONFERENCE UPON THE INVITATION OF GERMAN PROCLAIMING HERSELF VICTORIOUS, WITHOUT KNOWLEDGE OF HER PROPOSALS, WOULD BE PUTTING OUR HEADS IN A NOOSE WITH THE END OF THE ROPE IN GERMANY'S HANDS."

LONDON, Dec. 19.—(8:50 p. m.)—The announcement in the house of commons today by David Lloyd George, the new prime minister, that the first act of his administration was the rejection of the proposal of the central powers for a peace conference, constituted one of the most momentous scenes which the oldest parliamentary veteran had ever witnessed.

The new premier declared that before the allies could give favorable consideration to such an invitation they must know that Germany was prepared to accede to the allies' terms, giving complete restitution, full reparation and effectual guarantees; and "to enter a conference upon the invitation of Germany proclaiming herself victorious, without any knowledge of her proposals, would be putting our heads into a noose with the end of the rope in Germany's hands."

Mr. Lloyd George asserted that at the moment Germany was penning the note, assuring her convictions as to the rights of other nations, she was dragging Belgium into slavery. He announced that the note presented through Washington contained no proposals of terms, but was a paraphrase of Chancellor Bethmann-Hollweg's speech and that the allies had separately concluded to reject it, although they had informally exchanged views and would within a few days present a joint reply.

Mr. Asquith, the former premier, seconded Mr. Lloyd George's decision with even stronger words and almost at the same moment Earl Curzon was informing the lords that the government would enter no conference that did not guarantee for Europe the free and independent existence of nations, great and small. The Marquis of Crewe confirmed the approval of the members of the late government.

The day was a doubly important one for the commonwealth because the new premier unfolded his program for a wide-reaching war measure and Mr. Asquith closed the last chapter of his nine years of leadership with an account of his war stewardship.

The principal feature of Mr. Lloyd George's program is a measure for national service, matching Germany's latest scheme whereby every citizen will be liable for enrollment to perform work for which the authorities consider him best equipped.

Arthur Neville Chamberlain, mayor of Birmingham, and a member of the famous family whose energy and business capacity are rated high, will be director of the national service, with civil and military directors responsible to him.

The premier prefaced his review of the situation by the statement that Britons did their best in time of danger, that the country should be told unpleasant facts and that he would give, not a dark, but a stern view of the outlook.

Rising in the house a few minutes after 4 o'clock, the prime minister said:

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comment. The answer given by this government will be given in full accord with all our allies.

"Naturally there has been an interchange of views, not upon the note, because it has only recently arrived, but upon the speech which implied it, and as the note itself is practically only a reproduction or a paraphrase of the speech, the subject matter of the note itself has been discussed informally between the allies. I am glad to be able to state that we each separately and independently arrived at identical conclusions."

"I am very glad that the first answer given to the statement of the German chancellor was given by Russia and France. They have the unquestionable right to give the first answer to such an invitation. The enemy is still on their soil and their sacrifices have been the greater."

"The answer they have given has already appeared in the papers and I simply stand here to give clear and definite support to the statement they have already made."

"Any man or set of men who wantonly or without sufficient cause prolonged a terrible conflict like this would have on his soul a crime that oceans could not cleanse."

"On the other hand, it is equally true that any man or set of men who have abandoned the struggle without achieving the high purposes for which we entered would be guilty of the costliest act of poptroonery, ever perpetrated by any statesman. I should like to quote the words of Abraham Lincoln under similar conditions: 'We are not a world for an object, and a world object, and the war will end when the object is attained under God. I hope it will never end until that time.'"

"Are we likely to achieve the object by accepting the invitation of the German chancellor? What are the proposals? They are none."

"To enter, on the invitation of Germany proclaiming herself victorious, without any knowledge of her proposals, is to put our heads into a noose with the rope end in the hands of Germany."

"This country is not altogether without experience in these matters. This is not the first time we have fought a great military despotism, and we have not only won, but we have established a new order of things in Europe and it will be the first time we have helped to overthrow a military despotism. We have an uncomfortable historical memory of these things and can recall one of the greatest of these despots, whose favorite device was to appear to be a champion of peace, and then when he wished time to assimilate his conquests or to reorganize his forces for fresh conquests or, secondly, when his subjects showed symptoms of fatigue and war weariness, an appeal was always made in the name of humanity. He demanded an end to the bloodshed which he professed himself horrified, although he himself was mainly responsible."

"Our ancestors were taken in once, and bitterly they and Europe rue it. The time was devoted to reorganizing his forces for a deadlier attack than ever upon the liberties of Europe."

"I am sure that the world will regard this note with a considerable measure of reminiscent disquietude. 'We feel that we ought to know, before we can give favorable consideration to such an invitation, that Germany is prepared to accede to the only terms on which it is possible peace can be obtained and maintained in Europe. Those terms have been repeatedly stated by all the leading statesmen of the allies. They have been stated repeatedly here and outside. To quote the leader of the house last week:

"Reparation and guarantee against repetition, so that there be no mistake, and it is important that there should be no mistake in a matter of life or death to millions."

"Let me repeat—complete restitution, full reparation and effectual guarantees."

"Did the German chancellor use a single phrase to indicate that he was prepared to accept such a peace? Was there a hint of restitution? Was there a suggestion of reparation? Was there an implication of any security for the future, that this outrage on civilization would not again be perpetrated at the first favorable opportunity?"

lasting peace.

"What hope is given in the speech that the whole root and cause of this great bitterness, the arrogant spirit of the Prussian military caste will not be as dominant as ever if we patch up peace now? This very speech in which these peace suggestions are made resounds to the hearts of Prussian military triumph. It is a long paean over the victory of von Hindenburg."

"We must keep a steadfast eye upon the principles for which we entered the war; otherwise the great sacrifices we have been making will be in vain."

"The allies entered this war to defend Europe against the aggression of Prussian military domination and, having begun it, they must insist that the only end is the most complete effective guarantee against the possibility of that caste ever again disturbing the peace of Europe. Prussia, since she got into the hands of that caste, has been a bad neighbor, arrogant, threatening, bullying, shifting her boundaries at her will and taking one fair field after another from her weaker neighbors and adding them to her own dominions."

"With her belt ostentatiously full of weapons of offense and ready at a moment's notice to use them, she has always been an unpleasant, disturbing neighbor in Europe. She shot thoroughly on the nerve of Europe, there was no peace near where she dwelt. It is difficult for those who are fortunate enough to live thousands of miles away to understand what it has meant to those who live near."

"Even here, with the protection of the broad seas between us, we know what a disturbing factor the Prussians were with their constant naval menace. But we can hardly realize what it meant to France and Russia. Several times there were threats directed against them even within the lifetime of this generation which presented the alternative of war or humiliation. There were many of us who hoped that the internal influence in Germany would be strong enough to check and ultimately to eliminate it."

"Now that this great war has been forced by the Prussian leaders, it would be folly not to see to it that this swashbuckling through the streets of Europe and this disturbance of peaceful citizens was dealt with here and now as the most serious offense against the law of nations."

"We will wait until we hear what terms and guarantees the German government offer other than those, better than those, surer than those which he so lightly broke. And meanwhile we shall put our trust in our unbroken faith rather than in broken faith."

"For the moment I do not think it would be advisable for me to add anything upon this particular invitation. A formal reply will be delivered by the allies in the course of the next few days."

The premier's peroration was as follows:

"If in this war I have paid scant heed to the call of party it is because I realized from the moment the Prussian cannon hurled death at a peaceful and inoffensive little country that the danger had been sent to civilization to decide an issue higher than party, deeper than party, wider than all parties; an issue, upon the settlement of which will depend the fate of the men in this world for generations, when existing parties will have fallen like dead leaves on the highway."

"These issues are the issues I want to keep in front of the nation, so that we shall not falter or faint in our resolutions."

"There is a time in every prolonged and fierce war when in the passion of rage of conflict men forget the high purpose with which they entered it. This is a struggle for international right, international honor, international good faith—the channel along which peace, honor and good will must flow among men."

"The embankments laboriously built up by generations of men against barbarism have been broken and had not the might of Britain passed into the breach Europe would have been inundated with a flood of savagery and unbridled lust for power."

the construction of ships to make good the wastage of war.

Dealing with the war situation the premier said he had to paint a stern but not gloomy picture. The Rumanian blunder was an unfortunate one but at the worst it only prolonged the war and could not affect it. To prevent the Rumanian situation from becoming worse they had taken strong action in Greece. They had decided to recognize the agents of former Premier Venizelos.

Speaking of the western front he referred to the growth of the British armies there, and added:

"I am convinced ultimate victory is sure if the nation shows the same spirit of endurance and readiness to learn as the mud-stained armies at the front."

Of the co-operation between the entente allies he said:

"As to our relations with our allies I venture to say we should seek two things—unity of aim and unity of action."

"The solution of the Irish problem, said the premier, was largely one of a later atmosphere. 'I wish I could say something definite about Ireland,' he said."

Paying tribute to the contributions of the dominions to the prosecution of the war, he said the new administration was just as full of gratitude as the old "for the superb valor of our kinsmen," and he believed the dominions ought to be more fully consulted as to the progress and course of the war."

The premier referred briefly to his break with Mr. Asquith, saying:

"It is one of the deepest regrets of my life that I parted from Mr. Asquith and some of my friends have known how I strove to avert the parting. I am proud to say we never had a personal quarrel. It was with the deepest grief that I found it necessary to send my resignation."

"Turning to the more purely political of the domestic problems before the new ministry, Mr. Lloyd George said: 'We are anxious to avoid all controversial questions. The functions of the premier and leader of the house of commons have been separated because it was believed the double tasks were too much for one man. The organization of the new cabinet is best adapted for the purpose of war. In war you want prompt decision and the allies have suffered disaster after disaster from tardiness of decision.'

John Redmond, leader of the Irish nationalists, referring to the premier's remarks with regard to Ireland, appealed to him to take drastic action for a settlement of the Irish question, but not to link it with difficulties of anything of the nature of conscription for Ireland."

Laboring under the delusion that he had been commissioned by the Rockefeller interests to reorganize the entire working force of the mines at Butte, Melvin W. Pearl, colored, who was committed from this city to the insane asylum at Warm Springs, was loath to leave the copper city before he did that little task. Deputy Sheriff James Blevins, who returned last evening from Warm Springs, where he took Pearl, says that the colored man said he had to first fire all the employees at the Butte mines and smelters, and that he was also going to discharge the railroad employes. He named countless persons whom he had slated for these positions, and talked, sang or whistled incessantly from the time he left Lewistown until he arrived at Warm Springs with the peace officer.

Pearl was known at the springs and his record showed that he had been confined there on two former occasions. He is the man who wanted to warm up the atmosphere a few days ago by burning a straw shed at his homestead near Dover.

AUSTRIAN AND SERB IN FIGHT

LATTER RECEIVED THRUST FROM A KNIFE AND THE AUSTRIAN GETS STIFF FINE.

"SPEED COP" IS PUT UNDER ARREST

The trial of John Millich, said to be an Austrian, charged with an assault in the second degree upon Steve Boland, a Serbian, was taken up in the district court Monday, Assistant County Attorney Raymond Dockert representing the state and Williams & McConochie appearing for the defendant. The state put in its case, showing that the row occurred on the west side of the county some weeks ago, originating, apparently, in race hatred, engendered by the war. Boland was singing a Serbian song in a saloon while Millich was singing an Austrian air. After a few words, Millich cut Boland in the thigh, the wound not being a serious one although it might have been fatal had the man struck Boland in the abdomen. The defense decided to enter a plea of guilty, this being done shortly after the state rested. Judge Ayers imposed a fine of \$200.

FOR ASSAULT.

Upon the direction of the district court an information was Monday filed by the county attorney against Police Officer O. W. Henry, known as "the speed cop," charging him with an assault in the second degree upon John Quinlen, the complaining witness being an old-timer.

A bench warrant was issued and the defendant appeared and gave a bond in the sum of \$1,000, signed by Mayor W. D. Symmes and President Bert d'Autremont, of the council. The version of the affair given are entirely conflicting but a hearing will soon straighten it out. The defense claims that Quinlen created a disturbance at the Hub a few days ago and an officer was sent for. When he arrived the man had departed but was located in a saloon. As he resisted, force was used to subdue him, but no more, it is claimed, than was necessary. Quinlen pleaded guilty to drunkenness and was fined \$10 by Judge Mettler. At that time he made no complaint whatever to the court as to mistreatment.

MINOR T. MARTIN NEW HEAD OF LEWISTOWN MASONIC BLUE LODGE

Lewistown lodge No. 37, A. F. & A. M., on Friday night elected officers for the ensuing year as follows: Minor T. Martin, worshipful master; Carl C. Nissler, senior warden; Dr. J. H. P. Gauss, junior warden; Cecil E. Copeland, treasurer; Harry L. Fitton, secretary. William M. Blackford was re-elected trustee for the term of five years. The new master will announce his selections for the appointive offices in a short time.

MARRIAGE LICENSES.

Marriage licenses have been issued to George H. Long and Miss Nancy A. Dunavan of Auburn, Mont., and Charles V. Cox of Winnett, and Miss Lillian S. Allen of Valentine.

GEORGE SMITH DEAD.

George Smith died at his home in Cheadle Monday morning at 8 o'clock. The decedent was 79 years and 3 months of age. He has been a resident of Fergus county for 10 years. The services were held at 10 a. m. Wednesday morning at the ranch. Interment was at Gilt Edge.

Give Something Useful. We've got lots of Useful Presents.

Christmas is coming and are not you coming to our "Hardware" Store to see what "we" have which will make Christmas gifts?

In our store a little money will buy lots of presents.

Come in and see.

Our presents are best; they stand the test.

SEE OUR WINDOW.

Judith Hardware Co.

HOW OFFICIAL WASHINGTON VIEWS BRITISH PREMIER'S SPEECH

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—The first official impression here of Lloyd George's reply to the German peace proposals, with the announcements of Russia, Italy and France, is that it does not foreclose further moves which might lead to a discussion of peace such as the central powers have suggested. This view is held by officials in the administration and of the German embassy. Official Washington is unanimous, however, in the opinion that the British premier's speech has shown that any positive action by the United States toward mediation not only would be premature but might embarrass such action later.

It was stated authoritatively tonight that for the present the United States would act only as an intermediary, transmitting communications between the belligerents.

The British premier's speech as opening the door to a further discussion, although the German diplomats make no attempt to conceal their uncertainty regarding the outcome of such negotiations. They feel, however, that if the note replying to the German communication follows the tenor of the premier's speech, the entente, from the Teutonic viewpoint, has done all expected of it and has brought the idea of a peace conference one step nearer realization.

The German embassy interprets the British premier's speech as a flat refusal, but as the answer most to be expected of a group of belligerents eager to throw back on their adversaries in a world diplomatic struggle for public opinion, all the onus of having caused the war and of having brought about conditions under which peace was morally wrong.